

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

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FEBRUARY 2012

THE MESSENGER

Lent, *Metanoia*, and our Renewed Life in Christ

This month, we begin the holy season of Lent, a time when (as comedian Robin Williams once quipped) Episcopalians try to be religious.

Our goal is not spiritual masochism but, rather, a turning of ourselves toward the very grace that God so freely bestows upon us. The season beckons us to reduce the clutter and distraction that prevent God's breaking into our lives. So give up something if you choose, but my advice is to meditate upon Scripture (the Psalms are particularly good) and become still enough to allow God's quiet presence to waft into your soul.

A wonderful Greek word, *metanoia*, captures the spirit of our season. Yes, it's the opposite of paranoia: *metanoia* implies a healing change of mind and heart whereby we reorient ourselves toward God and away from the crushing demands of ego. *Metanoia* allows us to surrender our "stuff" and more closely imitate the values and holiness of Jesus as he journeys toward Jerusalem on our behalf.

Individuals engage in *metanoia*—a turning toward health—and so do faith communities. Yes, we turn toward health as a parish family. We begin Lent together on Ash Wednesday, February 22, with worship at 7:00 PM.

Individually and in our common life together, Lent calls us to jettison the distractions, turn toward health and follow Jesus toward Jerusalem. In this spirit, join us for the five Sundays of Lent at 9:00 AM, beginning February 25, as we discuss the Passion story of Jesus' death as understood differently in each of our Gospels.

Fr. David



The Rev. David M. Rider

Interim Rector

The Rev. Deacon Holly Galgano

Deacon

Eileen Mauro, Director

Webster Avenue Nursery School

Millie Noskov

Parish Administrative Assistant

WARDENS

Donna Donato

Joanne McGrath

VESTRY

Betty Baer

Nick Barnwell

Anne Bradner

Steve Harrison

Matthew Kennedy

Tracy Merolle

Nancy Sherman

Gwen Strayer

Scott Wenzel

TREASURER

Matthew Kennedy

REVIEW OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING IN JANUARY

Our annual meeting was held on January 22. The vestry welcomed their new member, Phil Knudson, and three members returning for a second term: Nancy Sherman, Scott Wenzel and Anne Bradner. Accolades were given to Fr. David Rider and Deacon Holly Galgano for their spiritual support and guidance during this time of transition, to Eileen Mauro, her staff at Webster Ave. Nursery School, and her husband, Mike for all they do and to our wonderful committee workers. It was wonderful to see and welcome back Bob Eldert , who looks marvelous, and his wife Sue, (who looked lovely as always). And, as always, the brunch was delicious. Look for the minutes of the meeting in the next newsletter.

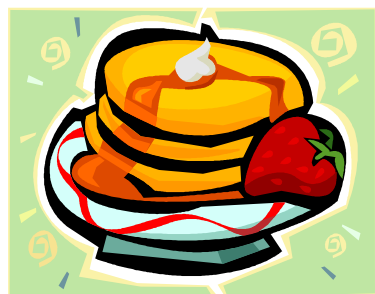
MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

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| February 21, 2012: | Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner |
| February 22, 2012: | Ash Wednesday |
| February 22, 2012: | Vestry Meeting |
| February 25, 2012: | Carver Center |
| March 17, 2012: | St Patrick's Day Celebration Dinner |
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SAFE CHURCH TRAINING

While the world feels full of peril for our children, we can work to make our corner of it as safe as possible. To that end, Fr. David led a “Safe Church Workshop” on Saturday, January 28. The Episcopal Church requires that all adults who have any contact with children attend this workshop and Fr. David is well versed in all the issues. He has worked with the national church on developing guidelines for all types of church workers, led countless workshops across the country, and has helped individual parishes work through difficult and painful situations. Counseling us to be “wise as serpents and gentle as doves,” Fr. David covered a list of topics ranging from appropriate behavior with children of all ages, to discerning children who might be at risk from abuse.

Contemplating the danger and hurt that can be inflicted on children is a sobering exercise. However, all of us who attended the workshop felt fortunate to have such a well-informed, able and wise leader in Fr. David.



SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER

All Saints' Pancake Supper will take place on **Tuesday, February 21, at 6:00 p.m.** in the Parish Hall. Watch for a sign-up sheet in the Narthex if you plan to attend!

MESSAGE FROM THE MUSIC DIRECTOR



Unbelievably, Lent is soon upon us. The choir begins to prepare with music that offers reflection and contemplation, with anthems that help to "create in us a clean heart" in this season of soul searching.

This past month we were delighted to have Will and Harry Barnwell (percussion) and Nicole Hessler (violin) join the choir for an energetic rendering of an ancient tune, Jesus Calls Us O'er the Tumult. Upon request, the text of our anthems are now being incorporated into the bulletin. And after her long winter absence, the choir is so very happy to have Jane back in the fold!

Also, for the families, I ask you to keep an eye out for emails about youth participation in Palm and Easter Sundays. Among other things, we will be doing a mixed youth and adult anthem, so if you would like to sing with us, youth or adult, please let me know. Contact me directly at cornista@earthlink.net. I will be sending out sound files and music during lent.

And finally, a thank you to the choir:

Karen, Jane, Carol, Lindy, Katherine, Scott and Phil, you are both an inspiration and a joy!

Sara

LENT 2012

ASH WEDNESDAY is February 22nd 2012. There will be one service this year at 7:00 PM.

During Lent this year, a series will be offered called, ***One Lord, Many Languages: A Deeper Understanding of our Christian Faith through the People of the Land***. This will be an opportunity to know more about the many Indigenous expressions of Christianity and how they intersect with to-



CARVER CENTER RETURNS SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25TH



We will be serving lunch at Carver on Saturday, February 25. If you can help in any way, please contact Maureen Britt. We have some volunteer cooks already, but can always use more cooks, food, servers, etc. Things get underway about 10:30 a.m., and finish up by about noon. It is a great outreach for All Saints' and we are always greeted enthusiastically.

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

1	Stephen Harrison	17	Maggie Marraccini
2	Colin Carpenter		Jeanine Ingenito Mavrakis
3	Dennis Galgano	19	Trevor Strayer
5	Nicole Hessler		Hayden Goldenberg
	Nikki Lyn Fields		(Trevor & Gwen's granddaughter)
6	Bryan Baer	20	Theodore Coles
10	Marco Bisceglia	21	Astrid Wenzel
13	Helen Thalacker		Katie and Grace English
15	Peter Wolverton		(Jim & Joanne's granddaughters)
		22	Quentin Young
		25	Anne Harrison
			Peggy Steers
		27	Christi Marraccini

Please contact the office to add your birthday to the list (914) 835-4716
or email office@allsaintsharrison.org

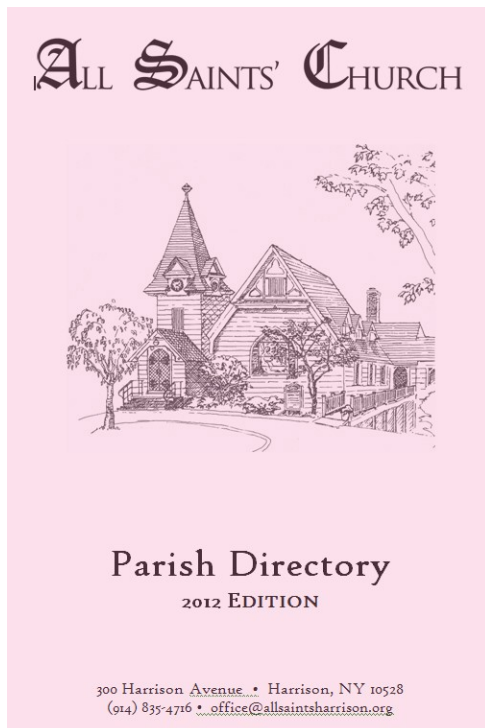
CELEBRATING PARISH CHILDREN IN FEBRUARY



Connor Gates reading to Christopher McLaughlin at coffee hour



Art work done by Tyler Merolle, Julia Merolle and Chris McGloughlin



The 2012 **Parish Directory** is available at the Narthex. Please pick up a copy on your way out.